

City Of Vernonia

Press Release

January 28, 2012

HLB-Otak (City Engineer) and Tetra Tech (project design engineer) accompanied the City Administrator, to a meeting with the Regional Engineer for Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on Thursday January 26, 2012 to discuss the key milestones in achieving DEQ acceptance of a Wastewater Facility Improvement PreDesign Report and Facility Plan that leads to final engineering drawings this year.

Tetra Tech is on a ten month schedule to meet our goal of having a final design approved by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) in December 2012.

The four key milestones include:

1. Complete DEQ PreDesign and Facility Plan Update criteria by May 2012
2. Secure DEQ//IFA review and acceptance of DEQ PreDesign and Facility Plan Update by June 2012
3. Complete Final Engineering Facility Plan by October 2012
4. Secure DEQ//IFA review and acceptance of Final Engineering Facility Plan by November 2012

With the successful completion of the above schedule, in December 2012 the city may expand the Tetra Tech contract to develop final construction documents and assist the City select a general contractor to complete the wastewater facility update and if needed pursue financing for this project in 2013.

The contract with Tetra Tech also requires developing a biosolids plan, an operations plan, a construction management plan, and if requested by DEQ an antidegradation plan. Tetra Tech will work with Shannon and Wilson to affirm that the berm redesign meets Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and United State Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) standards also.

The City Engineer at the direction of the City Administrator and City Council will assist the City complete an environmental assessment report, complete additional geotechnical reports if need, and secure specialty reports to confirm hydrology at the Rock Creek. The City may act as the Grant Administrator for this project if IFA concurs that we have the capacity to carry out that task.

The work underway will be paid from a secured Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$1,210,133.

Bill Haack, City Administrator